



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
INTERPOL Washington  
*U.S. National Central Bureau*

---

*Washington, DC 20530*

**JUL 08 2019**

**FOIA # 2019-168**

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
Dept MR 74402  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Ms. Best:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information request dated May 30, 2019, to Interpol Washington, U.S. National Central Bureau (USNCB), pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requesting the following:

Documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous (the hacker movement/collective, see below) or hacktivism (defined as hacking as a form of protest and/or activism) generated between 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2019, including but not limited to:

- \* Internal reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to Anonymous or hacktivism
- \* Reports from the appropriate IT (Information Technology) or computer offices regarding possible cyber attacks by Anonymous or other hacktivists
- \* Reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to or mentioning Anonymous or hacktivism sent to or received from any federal law enforcement or intelligence agencies or any fusion center
- \* Incident reports investigating possible hacking activity falling within the office's jurisdiction and allegedly carried out by members of Anonymous or other hacktivist groups
- \* Materials generated as a result of any suspected or actual compromise, breach or "dox" (revealing of personal or private information) by Anonymous or other hacktivists.

We received your request on May 30, 2019. Please refer to the above FOIA number assigned to your request in any additional correspondence. The USNCB has adopted a "multi-track processing" of FOIA requests based on the estimated amount of work and time needed to process the request. The criteria for assignment to a specific track can be found in the Department of Justice FOIA Regulations at 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(b). Your request has been assigned to the simple track.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

A search of the INTERPOL Washington indices located materials responsive to your request. We are releasing 22 pages with partial deletions pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), and (b)(7)(D) of the FOIA.

Exemption (b)(6) concerns material the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy of third parties.

Exemption (b)(7)(C) of the FOIA relates to records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to constitute an invasion of personal privacy. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld could consist of names, addresses, identification numbers, telephone numbers, fax numbers, or various other documents that are considered personal.

Exemption (b)(7)(D) provides protection for records or information that could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, including a state, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of a record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, information furnished by a confidential source.

46 pages concern the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The USNCB is referring these documents FBI for determination of releasability in accordance with the FOIA. You may expect a determination from the FBI concerning your request.

Information originating with INTERPOL, the International Criminal Police Organization, with its headquarters in Lyon, France, and foreign National Central Bureaus is provided to the USNCB pursuant to resolutions adopted by INTERPOL in 1974 and 1988, and the information is provided to USNCB with an understanding that it is for law enforcement purposes only.

The remaining 16 pages originated with a INTERPOL and foreign National Central Bureaus and are being withheld in full, pursuant to Exemption (b)(7)(D).

For your information, the United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer provides leadership and oversight of the Department's information and technology programs. Based on the type of records that you appear to be seeking, you might wish to make a request to Justice Management Division for the records that you seek.

If you are not satisfied with INTERPOL Washington's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov) ; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

You may contact the INTERPOL Washington FOIA Requester Service Center, as well as our FOIA Public Liaison, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Our contact information is as follows: INTERPOL Washington, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530-0001, Attention: Office of General Counsel, Tel.: 202-616-0201, Email: [Interpol-USNCB.FOIA@usdoj.gov](mailto:Interpol-USNCB.FOIA@usdoj.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin R. Smith", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Kevin R. Smith  
General Counsel

Enclosures

Case Number:20120206910  
Created On:2/28/2012 8:23:18 PM  
Created By: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

The source of the Query is:USNCB  
The Query executed:(Anonymous)  
Result:Negative  
Result Text:  
Search Results were negative.

PRIORITY: Urgent  
 DATE: 28 February 2012  
 FROM: Interpol Washington  
 TO: (b)(7)d  
 OUR REF: 20120206910 (b)(6),(b)(7)(c)  
 SUBJECT: \*\*\*FLASH\*\*\*: Operation Unmask - "Anonymous" hackers arrested

Colleagues,

IP Washington is highly interested in the below mentioned article regarding the arrest of 25 suspected members of the hacker group "Anonymous". We would greatly appreciate any additional information your office can provide regarding this operation (confirmation of the arrests; obtain names/biodata of those arrested; places of arrest; etc):

BEGIN

"(AFP) Lyon, France - Interpol has arrested 25 suspected members of the 'Anonymous' hackers group in a swoop covering more than a dozen cities in Europe and Latin America, the global police body said Tuesday.

"Operation Unmask was launched in mid-February following a series of coordinated cyber-attacks originating from Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Spain," said Interpol, based in the French city of Lyon.

The statement cited attacks on the websites of the Colombian Ministry of Defence and the presidency, as well as on Chile's Endesa electricity company and its National Library, among others.

The operation was carried out by police from Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Spain, the statement said, with 250 items of computer equipment and mobile phones seized in raids on 40 premises in 15 cities.

Police also seized credit cards and cash from the suspects, aged 17 to 40.

"This operation shows that crime in the virtual world does have real consequences for those involved, and that the Internet cannot be seen as a safe haven for criminal activity," said Bernd Rossbach, Interpol's acting director of police services.

However, it was not clear what evidence there was to prove those arrested were part of Anonymous, an extremely loose-knit international movement of online activists, or "hacktivists."

Spanish police said earlier they had arrested four suspected hackers accused of sabotaging websites and publishing confidential data on the Internet.

They were accused of hacking the websites of political parties and companies and adding fangs to the faces of leaders in photographs online, and publishing data identifying top officials' security guards, Spanish police said.

The operation, carried out after trawling through computer logs in order to trace IP addresses, also netted 10 suspects in Argentina, six in Chile and five in Colombia, Spanish police said.

They said one of the suspects went by the nicknames Thunder and Pacotron and was suspected of running the computer network used by Anonymous in Spain and Latin America, via servers in the Czech Republic and Bulgaria.

He was arrested in the southern Spanish city of Malaga.

Two of the suspects were in detention while one was bailed and the fourth was a minor who was left in the care of his parents.

In Santiago, deputy prefect Jaime Jara said police confiscated computer equipment belonging to five Chileans and a Colombian, aged between 17 and 23.

Jara said the suspects appeared to have hacked web pages in Chile, Colombia and Spain.

The six suspects did not know each other and were released after voluntarily giving statements, police said, though they will likely be ordered to appear in court to face possible charges relating to crime crimes.



Anonymous has in recent weeks targeted the websites of a series of police organisations, with subgroup "Antisec" on Friday vandalising the website of a major US prison contractor.

Anonymous took credit Thursday for an online raid on the Los Angeles Police Canine Association and previously attacked websites of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Anonymous has notably defended WikiLeaks when it was facing a funding cutoff and recently collaborated with the anti-secrecy site for the release of a swathe of emails from Texas-based private intelligence firm Stratfor.

In December 2010, Anonymous attacked the websites of Mastercard, PayPal, Visa and others for blocking donations to WikiLeaks after it began releasing thousands of classified US diplomatic cables."  
END

Regards,  
IP Washington

\*\*\*\*\*  
This message and any attachments contain sensitive law enforcement information that should be protected from unauthorized access and used only for law enforcement purposes. Any further dissemination of this message and any attachments is restricted to official law enforcement authorities for legitimate law enforcement purposes. Any other distribution of this information without the consent of the U.S.N.C.B. is prohibited.  
\*\*\*\*\*

PRIORITY: Urgent  
 DATE: 29 February 2012  
 FROM: Interpol Washington  
 TO: (b)(6), (b)(7)c  
 OUR REF: 20120206910 (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)  
 SUBJECT: \*\*\*FLASH\*\*\*: Operation Unmask - "Anonymous" hackers arrested

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED]

Thank you so much for the phone call.

IP Washington is highly interested in the below mentioned article regarding the arrest of 25 suspected members of the hacker group "Anonymous". We would greatly appreciate any additional information [REDACTED] can provide at this point regarding Operation Unmask, such as confirmation of the arrests, the names/identities of those arrested and related biometrics, as well as the locations of the arrests.

(b)(7)(d)  
Interpol Washington

Thank you, as always, and in any reply please quote our reference number: 20120206910.

Warm regards,

(b)(6), (b)(7)c Supervisory Analyst

Operations and Command Center

IP Washington

\* BEGIN ARTICLE\*

"(AFP) Lyon, France - Interpol has arrested 25 suspected members of the 'Anonymous' hackers group in a swoop covering more than a dozen cities in Europe and Latin America, the global police body said Tuesday.

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(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

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\* END ARTICLE\*

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PRIORITY: Urgent  
 DATE: 29 February 2012  
 FROM: Interpol Washington  
 TO: (b)(7)d  
 OUR REF: 20120206910 (b)(6),(b)(7)(c)  
 SUBJECT: \*\*\*FLASH\*\*\*: Operation Unmask - "Anonymous" hackers arrested

\*\* UPDATE \*\*

Greetings, (b)(7)d

Please be advised that AD (b)(6), (b)(7)c has contacted IP Washington and provided preliminary information on Operation Unmask. He indicated that we could contact him further while in (b)(7)d by mobile, if we had any additional questions.

Thank you to all at (b)(7)d for their assistance with this matter, as we are greatly appreciative.

Regards,

IP WASHINGTON

\*\*\*\*\* previous message follows \*\*\*\*\*

PRIORITY: Urgent  
 DATE: 28 February 2012  
 FROM: Interpol Washington  
 TO: (b)(7)d  
 OUR REF: 20120206910 (b)(6),(b)(7)(c)  
 SUBJECT: \*\*\*FLASH\*\*\*: Operation Unmask - "Anonymous" hackers arrested

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(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

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END

Regards,  
IP Washington

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(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

Case Number: 20120206910

Date: 2/29/2012 1:51:31 PM

Created By: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

Document Type: Note to File

Text:

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 1:51 PM

To: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

(b)(6), (b)(7)c

Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

Subject: (b)(7)d

(b)(7)d

Hello,

Please see below message from (b)(7)d

Thanks,

(b)(6), (b)(7)c

\*\*\*QUOTE\*\*\*

(b)(7)d

(b)(7)d

\*\*\*END QUOTE\*\*\*

(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

Case Number:20120929587  
Created On:9/5/2012 6:37:02 PM  
Created By:

The source of the Query is:USNCB

The Query executed:(Anonymous Operation Hungary) OR

(b)(7)d

(b)(7)d

Result:Negative

Result Text:

Search Results were negative.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)



PRIORITY: Non-Urgent  
DATE: 10 September 2012  
FROM: Interpol Washington  
TO: NCB Interpol (b)(7)d  
OUR REF: 20120929587 (b)(6),(b)(7)(c)  
SUBJECT: (b)(7)d

Dear Colleagues,

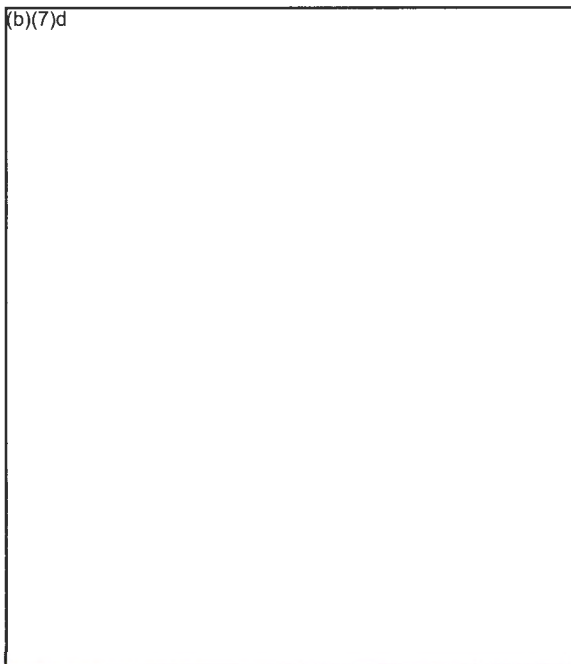
We have received your referral (please see attached below for your ease of reference).

Please be advised that we have forwarded your referral to a specialize cyber crime unit for additional review and possible action. Should we become informed of a result of this review, we will forward that information if it becomes available.

Regards,

IP Washington

ATTACHMENT



(b)(7)d



(b)(7)d



(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)d

(b)(7)d

(b)(6);(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)d



(b)(7)d



(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)d

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PRIORITY: Non-Urgent  
DATE: 10 September 2012  
FROM: Interpol Washington  
TO: (b)(6), (b)(7)c  
OUR REF: 20120929587 (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)  
SUBJECT: Referral from INTERPOL (b)(7)d

Dear (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Please see the attached referral from INTERPOL (b)(7)d concerning internet hacking. We do not have a letter of rogatory on this matter and do not expect to receive one. We are forwarding this information for whatever action you deem appropriate.

Regards,

(b)(6), (b)(7)c

ATTACHMENT

(b)(7)d

(b)(7)d



(b)(7)d



(b)(7)d



(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)d



(b)(7)d



(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)d

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PRIORITY: Non-Urgent  
DATE: 4 December 2017  
FROM: Interpol Washington  
TO: NCB Interpol (b)(7)d  
OUR REF: 20171239410 (b)(6),(b)(7)(c)  
SUBJECT: Ref (b)(7)d

Dear Colleague,

In regards to your below mention request for information, your authorities will need to make a formal request for mutual legal assistance to the U.S. Central Authority for Mutual Legal Assistance, the Office of International Affairs in the U.S. Department of Justice.

Regards,  
IP Washington

(b)(7)d

(b)(7)d



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(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)